

Indiana Department of Environmental Management Office of Water Quality Assessment Branch

FACT SHEET A-012-OWQ-A-SU-06-0-R5 Rev. March 2006

IDEM's Surface Water Quality Assessment Program

Fixed Station (Ambient) Monitoring Program

Program Objective

The objective of this program is to provide basic information that will reveal water quality trends and provide data for the many existing and prospective users of surface water in Indiana. The program was developed to determine chemical, physical, and bacteriological characteristics of Indiana water under changing conditions. Currently, water quality data are collected monthly from 163 sites on various rivers and streams. Although the number and location of some of these stations have changed over time, a number of the stations have been continuously monitored since 1957. The information has been used in determining background data for certain types of pollutants, such as chlorides and phosphorous. The information also assists in the development of wasteload allocations and NPDES permits for municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants and for other municipal, industrial, agricultural, and recreational uses. Additionally, the information is collected for future pollution abatement activities such as the review of non-point source effects; and in procuring data useful and necessary for securing public action toward the preservation of streams for all beneficial uses.

Program Participants

This program is operated through the sampling efforts by the Survey Section of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's Office of Water Quality (OWQ) at the Assessment Branch. Laboratory analyses are performed at the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Laboratory.

Program Description

Media: Surface Water: rivers, streams and lakes

Study Area: Statewide

Site Selection Type: Network established in 1957

Sampling Sites: 163 fixed stations

Sampling Frequency: Monthly

Data Collected: Water Chemistry, Bacteriological and Field Analytical Data

Program Products

< Report: Indiana Water Quality Monitor Station Records: Rivers and Streams

< Data available in the AIMS database (IDEM Assessment Branch) and

U.S. EPA STORET database

Trend Analysis reports by Monitoring Strategy timeline

Technical Notes

< Parameters vary for each site

Water Chemistry Parameters			
Priority Metals	Secondary Metals	Anions Physical	Others
Arsenic	Calcium	Alkalinity	TKN
Cadmium	Iron	Total Solids	Ammonia
Chromium	Magnesium	Suspended Solids	Nitrate-Nitrite
Chromium (Cr+6)	Manganese	Dissolved Solids	Total Phosphorus
Copper	Sodium	Fluoride	TOC
Lead	Dissolved Iron	Sulfate	Cyanide
Selenium	Dissolved	Chloride	BOD
	Manganese		
Nickel	Dissolved Copper	Hardness	COD
Zinc	Dissolved Lead	Dissolved Oxygen	E. coli
Barium	Dissolved Zinc	PH	Dissolved reactive silica
Silver		Specific	
		Conductance	
			Radionuclides
			Pesticides

Contact Information

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IDEM Information:

(317) 232-8603 or 800-451-6027 800-743-3333(TDD) toll-free for Indiana residents www.IN.gov/idem/water/

Report Environmental Emergencies: (888) 233-7745

Confidential Technical Assistance: (800) 988-7901

Pollution Complaint:

www.IN.gov/idem/pollutioncomplaints/

Ouestions and Comments:

www.IN.gov/idem/contact/questions.html

For More Information on IDEM's Office of Water Quality...

Assessment Branch (Surface water quality monitoring: rivers and streams, lakes, water quality standards) Shadeland Office, Indianapolis (317) 308-3173

Compliance Branch (Compliance and inspections, data and information services, wastewater certification and continuing education) Indiana Government Center North, Indianapolis (317) 233-2545

Drinking Water Branch (Public water supply supervision and ground water protection) Shadeland Office, Indianapolis (317) 308-3308

Permitting Branch (Facilities Construction & Engineering Support, Industrial & municipal permits, modeling, and wet weather) Indiana Government Center North, Indianapolis (317) 232-8760

Watershed Planning Branch (Rules development, wetlands, TMDL, watershed management) Indiana Government Center North, Indianapolis (317) 233-8488